

REMARKS

Claims 1 and 2 are pending. Claim 1 has been amended. Reconsideration and allowance of the present application based on the following remarks are respectfully requested.

Entry of this amendment is respectfully requested as no new search is required and it places the application in condition for allowance or at least in better form for appeal.

Summary of the November 20, 2004 Personal Interview

Applicants appreciate the courtesies extended to the Applicants' Representative by the Examiner during the November 20, 2003 personal interview. During the interview, it was agreed that Applicants October 30, 2003 Response to the July 2, 2003 Office Action overcame the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112 and 102.

Claim Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1 and 2 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Koike et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,629,056) in view of Yoshino et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,190,794). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Claim 1 recites, in part, a liquid crystal display element that includes a circuit array substrate having pixel electrodes and a resin layer interposed therebetween and alignment films being formed on the pixel electrodes and the common electrode, respectively. The alignment film is formed such that at least a portion of the alignment film contacts the resin layer. In contrast, Koike discloses a common electrode 21 with an alignment film 22 and an element electrode 24 with an alignment film 26. Koike further discloses that a color filter layer (not shown) is provided under the common electrode (see Figure 14). Since the continuous common electrode 21 is placed between the alignment film 22 and the color filter layer, Koike fails to teach or suggest that at least a portion of the alignment film contacts the resin layer. Yoshino does not remedy the deficiencies of Koike since Yoshino discloses an electrode 40 between films 48 and 42 and the orientation film 38a (for example, see Figure 3). Accordingly, no combination of Koike and Yoshino teach or suggest a liquid crystal display element that includes an alignment film formed such that at least a portion of the alignment film contacts the resin layer, as recited in claim 1.

Claim 2 is believed allowable for at least the reasons presented above with respect to claim 1 by virtue of its dependence upon claim 1. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection.


Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, the claims are believed to be in form for allowance, and such action is hereby solicited. If any point remains in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, please contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

All objections and rejections having been addressed, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in a condition for allowance and a Notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

Please charge any fees associated with the submission of this paper to Deposit Account Number 03-3975 under Order No. 009270/0284995. The Commissioner for Patents is also authorized to credit any over payments to the above-referenced Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,
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